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**Utah Building Energy Efficiency Strategies & Utah Home
Performance Named 2012 ENERGY STAR® Partners of the Year**

Salt Lake City – The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has recognized the Utah Building Energy Efficiency Strategies (UBEES) partnership and Utah Home Performance (UHP) program with 2012 ENERGY STAR Partner of the Year Awards for their outstanding contributions to increasing energy efficiency and high performance building practices across Utah.

The Programs will be recognized at an awards ceremony in Washington, D.C. on March 15, 2012, which marks the 20th anniversary of ENERGY STAR.

UBEES is a collaborative partnership between the Office of Energy Development, Utah Clean Energy, the Division of Facilities and Construction Management, and the Cadmus Group designed to increase energy efficiency in government, commercial, and residential buildings. In addition, UBEES has provided free education to hundreds of Utah builders on high performance building practices and energy code compliance.

UHP is a pilot Home Performance with Energy Star Program that has helped almost 1300 Utah homeowners save an average of 29 percent of their energy costs. In addition, the program has helped to start a “whole home” retrofit market in Utah with the aid of contracting companies PECI and Nexant.

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Supporting 85 local Utah companies with training and program management, the UHP program has helped create and maintain job opportunities for these companies across the State.

Over the past 20 years, American families and businesses have saved nearly \$230 billion on utility bills and prevented greenhouse gas emissions equal to those from more than 350 million vehicles with help from ENERGY STAR.

UBEES and UHP were established via funding managed by the Utah Office of Energy Development (OED).

“UBEES and UHP exemplify the strong commitment to energy development in Utah,” said Samantha Mary Julian, Director of OED, “Our office is proud of their accomplishments and will continue to build off the work and example each has set.”

The ENERGY STAR Partner of the Year Awards for Energy Efficiency Program Delivery are given to a variety of organizations in recognition of their efforts to improve energy efficiency and reduce pollution, resulting in significant cost savings. Award winners are selected from about 20,000 organizations that participate in the ENERGY STAR program.

“As we celebrate the 20th anniversary of the ENERGY STAR program, EPA is proud to recognize UBEES & UHP with the 2012 ENERGY STAR Partner of the Year Award for Energy Efficiency Program Delivery,” said EPA Administrator Lisa P. Jackson. “UBEES, UHP and all our ENERGY STAR award winners are helping Americans find cost-effective ways to save energy in everything we do, which is good for our climate, our health, and our future.”

About ENERGY STAR

ENERGY STAR was introduced by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency in 1992 as a voluntary market-based partnership to reduce greenhouse gas emissions through increased energy efficiency. Now celebrating its 20th anniversary, ENERGY STAR offers businesses and consumers energy-efficient solutions to save energy, money and help protect the environment for future generations. About 20,000 organizations are ENERGY STAR partners committed to improving the energy efficiency of products, homes, buildings and businesses. For more information about ENERGY STAR, visit www.energystar.gov or call toll-free 1-888-STAR-YES (1-888-782-7937).

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